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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

29683

7590

01/06/2011

HARRINGTON & SMITH 4 RESEARCH DRIVE, Suite 202 SHELTON, CT 06484-6212 EXAMINER

CAMPBELL, KELLIE L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3691 DATE MAILED: 01/06/2011

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/870.277	05/30/2001	Carsten Thormod Pedersen	800.0322.U1(US)	7410

TITLE OF INVENTION: DEPOSITING METHOD AND ARRANGEMENT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	04/06/2011

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	. A	ITORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/870,277 TITLE OF INVENTION	05/30/2001 : DEPOSITING METHO	DD AND ARRANGEMI	Carsten Thormod Pederser	n	800.0322.U1(US)	7410	
APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE F.	EE TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE	
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CAMPBELL	., KELLIE L	3691	705-039000	•			
 Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached. "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED OX 			or agents OR, alternati (2) the name of a singl registered attorney or a 2 registered patent atto listed, no name will be	ames of up to 3 registered patent attorneys OR, alternatively, ame of a single firm (having as a member a d attorney or agent) and the names of up to red patent attorneys or agents. If no name is name will be printed.			
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29683 75	29683 7590 01/06/2011			EXAMINER		
HARRINGTON	& SMITH	CAMPBELL	., KELLIE L			
4 RESEARCH DR		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER			
SHELTON, CT 06	484-6212	3691 DATE MAILED: 01/06/2011				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 326 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 326 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)		
	09/870,277	PEDERSEN ET AL.		
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit		
	KELLIE CAMPBELL	3691		
The MAILING DATE of this communication apperall claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED or other appropriate comr GHTS. This application is and MPEP 1308.	in this application. If not included nunication will be mailed in due course. subject to withdrawal from issue at the		
1. This communication is responsive to <u>Pre-Appeal Request in the Pre-Appeal Request in the Pre-</u>	<u>Received November 23, 2</u>	<u>009</u> .		
2. \boxtimes The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-40</u> .				
 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority un a) All b) Some* c) None of the: 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents 	been received. been received in Applica	ion No	m tha	
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).	cuments have been receiv	ed III tilis flational stage application floi	ii tiie	
* Certified copies not received:				
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(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	-	ew (PTO-948) attached		
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DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT I			;	
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 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) D Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 		Informal Patent Application Summary (PTO-413),		
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4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	_	s Statement of Reasons for Allowance		
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Art Unit: 3691

DETAILED ACTION

1. Amendment after final filed November 23, 2009 has been fully considered.

Claims 2-9, 11-14, 17, and 20 are currently pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes

and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided

by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be

submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview

with attorney Harry Smith on March 26, 2010. The application has been amended as

follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

2. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims

in this application.

3. **IN THE CLAIMS**

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method, comprising:

[[for]] calculating a subscriber's account balance in a telecommunications system where at least two different types of vouchers having with the same type of a credit value can be used for making are usable to make deposits in [[the]] a subscriber's account, which vouchers may be bought at least some of the vouchers being purchasable, the types of the vouchers differing from each other at least to an extent that a certain amount of calling time has different prices in different types of the vouchers, where calculating comprises, the method comprising:

defining, to a memory, at least two different ways of updating the account balance for the same type of a credit value, wherein a first way to update comprises calculating, by a processor coupled to the memory, the account balance by adding a credit value of a new voucher to the credit <u>value</u> in the account, and <u>wherein a</u> second way to update comprises calculating the account balance by setting the account balance to be the credit value of the new voucher;

maintaining information in a database separate from account balance information, said information indicating the type of a last used voucher of the subscriber;

receiving a deposit identifying a new voucher which the subscriber is [[going]] to use to update his/her the subscriber's credit;

determining, by the processor, the type of the new voucher;

determining, by the processor, the type of the last used voucher of the subscriber:

comparing, by the processor, the type of the new voucher with the type of the last used voucher of the subscriber; and

responsive to said vouchers being of the same type, using the processor to calculate the first way to update the account balance <u>in accordance with the first way</u>; and

otherwise, when said vouchers are of a different type of vouchers having <u>but</u>

<u>have</u> the same type of [[a]] credit value, using the processor to calculate the second
way to update the account balance <u>in accordance with the second way</u>.

3. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method, comprising:

[[for]] calculating a subscriber's account balance in a telecommunications system where at least two different types of vouchers having the same type of a credit value can be used for making are usable to make deposits in [[the]] a subscriber's account, which vouchers may be bought at least some of the vouchers being purchasable, the types of the vouchers differing from each other at least [[so]] to an extent that a certain amount of [[a]] calling time has different prices in different types of the vouchers; where calculating comprises, the method comprising:

defining, to a memory, at least two different ways of updating the account balance for the same type of a credit value, wherein the first way to update comprises calculating, by a processor coupled to the memory, the account balance by adding a value of a new voucher to the credit <u>value</u> in the account, and [[the]] <u>wherein a</u> second way to update comprises determining a factor, other than one, multiplying the credit <u>value</u> in the account with the factor, adding the result of said multiplication to the credit

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value of the new voucher, and setting the account balance to be the result of said addition;

maintaining information in a database separate from account balance information, said information indicating the type of a last used voucher of the subscriber; receiving a deposit identifying a new voucher which the subscriber is [[going]] to use to update his/her the subscriber's credit;

determining, by the processor, the type of the new voucher;

determining, by the processor, the type of the last used voucher of the subscriber;

comparing, by the processor, the type of the new voucher with the type of the last used voucher of the subscriber; and

if said vouchers are of the same type, using the processor to calculate the first way to update the account balance in accordance with the first way; and[[;]]

if said vouchers are of a different type, of vouchers having <u>but have</u> the same type of [[a]] credit value, using the processor to calculate the second way to update the account balance <u>in accordance with the second way</u>.

- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said factor is determined by the processor on the basis of the [[types]] type of the last used voucher and the type of the new voucher.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 further comprising: asking the subscriber for [[a]] permission to update the [[credit]] <u>account balance</u>, if the vouchers are of a different type having the same type of a credit value; and

updating, by the processor, the [[credit]] <u>account balance</u> only if the permission is received from the sub scriber.

- 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the types of the vouchers are determined on the basis of [[their]] <u>a voucher</u> identification numbers <u>number</u>.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the telecommunications system is a mobile telecommunications system.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A telecommunications system in which a subscriber can pre-pay for [[the]] subscriber's calls by making deposits in [[the]] a subscriber's account using at least two different types of vouchers having the same type of a credit value, wherein said vouchers may be bought at least some of the vouchers are purchasable, the types of the vouchers differing from each other at least [[so]] to an extent that a certain amount of [[a]] calling time has different prices in different types of the vouchers, the telecommunications system comprising:

a database configured to contain voucher-specific information and subscriber-specific information; and

a network element connectable to the database and comprising a memory, a processor, and an interface for user interaction, the network element being configured to:

the subscriber's account balance;

obtain, from the database, and in response to the subscriber making a deposit, voucher-specific information and [[a]] the subscriber's subscriber-specific information; determine, by using the obtained information, a type of a last used voucher of the subscriber and the type of a new voucher which the subscriber is going to use to update

compare the type of the last used voucher with the type of the new voucher;

apply a first method stored in the memory and executed by the processor to update the account balance in a first way if the last used voucher and the new voucher are the same type, wherein the first way comprises calculating the account balance by adding a credit value of a new voucher to the credit in the account;

detect a change of voucher if the last used voucher and the new voucher are of different type of vouchers having the same type of credit value; and

in response to said detection, update the account balance in a second way different from the first way, wherein the second way comprises calculating the account balance by setting the account balance to be the credit value of the new voucher.

- 9. (Currently Amended) The telecommunications system of claim 8, wherein the network element is further configured, in response to said detection, to ask the subscriber for [[a]] permission to update the account balance and to update the account balance only in response to the permission.
- 10. (Cancelled).
- 11. (Previously presented) The telecommunications system of claim 9, wherein the network element is an Intelligent Peripheral of an Intelligent Network, said Intelligent Peripheral comprising an Interactive Voice Response service through which the account balances are updated.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A network element for a telecommunications system where a subscriber of the system can pre-pay for [[the]] subscriber's calls by making deposits in [[the]] a subscriber's account using at least two different types of vouchers having the same type of a credit value, which vouchers may be bought, where at least some of the vouchers are purchasable, the types of the vouchers differing from each other at least [[so]] to an extent that a certain amount of [[a]] calling time has different prices in different types of the vouchers, the network element comprising:

a memory in which the account balance, and information indicating, subscriberspecifically, a type of a voucher last used by the subscriber are maintained, said

information relating to the type of voucher last used being maintained separate from the account balance;

a processor coupled to the memory and configured to:

determine the type of a voucher last used by the subscriber;

determine the type of the new voucher which the subscriber is going to use to update the subscriber's account balance;

compare the type of the voucher last used by the subscriber with the type of the new voucher, and

calculate the account balance by adding a credit value of a new voucher to the credit in the account if said vouchers are of the same type, and

calculate the account balance by setting the account balance to be the credit value of the new voucher if said vouchers are of a different type of vouchers having the same type of a credit value.

13. (Currently Amended) The network element of claim 12, further comprising an

interface for user interaction coupled to the processor, wherein the processor is further configured to ask the subscriber, via the interface, for [[a]] permission to update the account balance in response to said vouchers being of a different type, and to update the account balance only in response to [[a]] permission received from the subscriber.

14. (Previously presented) A network element for a telecommunications system where a subscriber of the system can pre-pay for subscriber's calls by making deposits in [[the]] a subscriber's account using at least two different types of vouchers having the same type of a credit value, which vouchers may be bought where at least some of the vouchers are purchasable, the types of the vouchers differing from each other at least [[so]] to an extent that a certain amount of [[a]] calling time has different prices in different types of the vouchers, the network element comprising:

access to a memory, where the account balance and information indicating subscriberspecifically a type of a voucher last used by the subscriber are maintained, said information relating to the type of voucher last used being maintained separate from the account balance;

a processor coupled to the memory and configured to:

determine the type of the voucher last used by the subscriber;

determine the type of a new voucher which the subscriber is going to use to update the subscriber's account balance;

compare the type of the voucher last used by the subscriber with the type of the new voucher:

calculate the account balance by adding a credit value of a new voucher to the credit account balance in the account if said vouchers are of the same type; and

calculate the account balance by determining a factor, other than one, by multiplying the subscriber's current account balance with said factor, by adding the result of said multiplication to the credit value of the second voucher, and by setting the account balance to be the result of said addition if said vouchers are of a different type of vouchers having the same type of a credit value.

Claims 15-16: (Cancelled).

17.(Currently Amended) The network element of claim 14, wherein the network element further comprises an interface via which the processor is further configured to ask the subscriber for [[a]] permission to update the account balance in response to said vouchers being of a different type, and the processor is configured to update the account balance only in response to [[a]] permission received from the subscriber.

Claims 18-19: (Cancelled).

20.(Previously presented) A telecommunications system in which a subscriber prepays for subscriber's calls by making deposits in a subscriber's account using at least two different types of vouchers having the same type of a credit value and in which vouchers may be bought where at least some of the vouchers are purchasable, the types of the vouchers differing from each other at least [[so]] to an extent that a certain amount of [[a]] calling time has different prices in different types of the vouchers, the telecommunications system comprising:

a database configured to contain voucher-specific information and subscriber-specific information; and

a network element coupled to the database and comprising a memory, a processor, and an interface for user interaction, the network element being configured to: obtain, in response to the subscriber making a deposit, from the database, voucher-specific information and the subscriber's subscriber-specific information; determine, by using the obtained information, a type of a last used voucher of the subscriber and the type of a new voucher which the subscriber is going to use to update the subscriber's account balance; compare the type of the lased used voucher with the type of the new voucher; apply a first method to update the account balance if the last used voucher and the new voucher are of the same type, the first method comprising calculating the

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account balance by adding a credit value of a new voucher to the credit <u>value</u> in the account; detect a change of voucher if the last used voucher and the new voucher are of different type of vouchers having the same type of a credit value; and in response to said detection, to apply a second method to update the account balance, the second method comprising determining a factor, other than one, multiplying the credit in the account with the factor, adding the result of said multiplication to the credit value of the new voucher, and setting the account balance to be the result of said addition.

21. (Previously presented) The network element of claim 12, wherein the network element is an Intelligent Peripheral of an Intelligent Network, said Intelligent Peripheral comprising an Interactive Voice Response service through which the account balances are updated.

22. (Currently amended) The network element of claim 13, comprising an Intelligent Peripheral of an Intelligent Network, said Intelligent Peripheral comprising an Interactive Voice Response service through which the account balances are updated.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-9, 11-14, 17 and 20 as listed in the Examiner's amendment are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

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1. Applicant's reasons for Allowance in the Pre-Appeal Request Brief dated November 23, 2009, pages 2-5.

- 2. No prior art of record teaches the missing claim limitations cited above. Furthermore, no prior art of record may be reasonably combined with any other reference to teach each and every claim limitation.
- 3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
- 4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kellie Campbell whose telephone number is 571-270-54-95. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th, 9:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on 571-272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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K.C.